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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Brad Haeblerle

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10/16/2006

Siemens Corporation
Intellectual Property Department
170 Wood Avenue South
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EXAMINER

GORTAYO, DANGELINO N

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2168

DATE MAILED: 10/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/628,976	Applicant(s) HAEBERLE ET AL.	
	Examiner Dangelino N. Gortayo	Art Unit 2168	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 August 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 16-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 16-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is response to Applicants' Amendment filed 8/08/2006.
2. Claims 16-35 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 16-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kalantar et al. ("Kalantar" US # 6,954,737).

As per claim 16, Kalantar teaches "A computer implemented method for providing information relating to service activity for a plurality of building sites and operation data for one or more systems located at one or more building sites:" (See Figure 1 reference 110, 120 and Abstract)

"providing a web portal comprising a database, and storing service related information about a plurality of building sites and operational data about one or more systems located in said one or more building sites in said database;" (column 6 lines 48-55, wherein a central management server connected to a WAN holds data regarding

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information about a plurality of building sites and operational data regarding maintenance).

“receiving at said web portal a request for information about service activities for one or more systems at one or more building sites from one or more clients;” (column 8 lines 7-19, wherein the central management server receives a request of information from an EMI unit, which is a client).

“determining at said web portal service activities that are implicated by said request;” (column 30 lines 38-64, wherein the central management server generates a list of tasks to be performed based on the request from the EMI unit).

“transmitting from said web portal service activity information implicated by said request to a client;” (column 31 lines 38-50, wherein the central management server sends the work schedule, including task list, to be displayed on the EMI unit in the first building site).

“receiving at said web portal a request for operational data related to said service information transmitted by said web portal,” (column 32 lines 25-43, wherein the central management server receives from the EMI unit a task status message, which is analogous to operational data) “said operational data including information about the functional operation of a system;” (column 13 lines 19-56, wherein the operation of a system may be monitored and updated, wherein the operation includes tasks necessary for the function of specific equipment)

“determining at said web portal the operational data implicated by said request;” (column 32 lines 44-57, wherein the central management server determines from the request the relevance of the status of each task and updates the task in the database

“and transmitting from said web portal operational data implicated by said request to a client.” (column 33 lines 7-17, wherein the central management server sends the work status report to the EMI unit, and is synonymous).

As per claim 17, Kalantar teaches “said service activity information further comprises service contract information.” (column 12 lines 14-33, wherein service activity information includes user records identifying where a user is scheduled to perform specified tasks, implying a contract and is analogous).

As per claim 18, Kalantar teaches “said service activity information further comprises information about the types of services being provided.” (column 12 line 49 – column 13 line 7, wherein the central management server holds information on the types of tasks being provided as well as the status of tasks).

As per claim 19, Kalantar teaches “said service activity information further comprises information about the types of systems being serviced.” (column 13 lines 8-18, wherein the central management server holds information containing a number of templates, which defines the system being serviced).

As per claim 20, Kalantar teaches “said service activity information further comprises information about the status of service activities.” (column 12 lines 57-67, wherein service activity information held in the central management server includes task status identifiers to indicate a variety of states).

As per claim 21, Kalantar teaches “the step of providing a web portal comprises providing a web server.” (column 6 lines 15-24, wherein the central management server, representing the web portal communicates with facilities, representing facilities, representing clients, through a WAN, such as the world wide web).

As per claim 22, Kalantar teaches “computer implemented method for providing information relating to service activity for a plurality of building sites and operation data for one or more systems located at a building site.” (see Abstract).

“providing a web portal comprising a database, and storing service related information about a plurality of building sites and operational data about one or more systems located in said one or more building sites in said database;” (column 6 lines 48-55, wherein a central management server connected to a WAN holds data regarding information about a plurality of building sites and operational data regarding maintenance).

“receiving at said web portal a request for operational data about one or more systems from one or more clients,” (column 32 lines 25-43, wherein the central management server receives from the EMI unit a task status message, which is analogous to operational data and indicates systems within the chosen facility) “said operational data including information about the functional operation of the one or more systems;” (column 13 lines 19-56, wherein the operation of a system may be monitored and updated, wherein the operation includes tasks necessary for the function of specific equipment)

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“determining at said customer web portal operational data implicated by said request;” (column 32 lines 44-57, wherein the central management server determines from the request the relevance of the status of each task and updates the task in the database

“transmitting said operational data implicated by said request to a client.” (column 33 lines 7-17, wherein the central management server sends the work status report to the EMI unit, and is synonymous).

“receiving at said web portal a request for service information related to said operational data from one or more clients;” (column 8 lines 7-19, wherein the central management server receives a request of information, which points to work status in the central management server, from an EMI unit, which is a client).

“determining at said customer web portal service information implicated by said request” (column 30 lines 38-64, wherein the central management server generates a list of tasks to be performed based on the request from the EMI unit).

“ and transmitting said service related information implicated by said request to a client. (column 31 lines 38-50, wherein the central management server sends the work schedule, including task list, to be displayed on the EMI unit in the first building site).

As per claim 23, Kalantar teaches “said service activity information further comprises service contract information.” (column 12 lines 14-33, wherein service activity information includes user records identifying where a user is scheduled to perform specified tasks, implying a contract and is analogous).

As per claim 24, Kalantar teaches “said service activity information further comprises information about the types of services being provided.” (column 12 line 49 – column 13 line 7, wherein the central management server holds information on the types of tasks being provided as well as the status of tasks).

As per claim 25, Kalantar teaches “said service activity information further comprises information about the types of systems being serviced.” (column 13 lines 8-18, wherein the central management server holds information containing a number of templates, which defines the system being serviced).

As per claim 26, Kalantar teaches “said service activity information further comprises information about the status of service activities.” (column 12 lines 57-67, wherein service activity information held in the central management server includes task status identifiers to indicate a variety of states).

As per claim 27, Kalantar teaches “the step of providing a web portal comprises providing a web server.” (column 6 lines 15-24, wherein the central management server, representing the web portal communicates with facilities, representing facilities, representing clients, through a WAN, such as the world wide web).

As per claim 28, Kalantar teaches “A system for providing information about a plurality of building sites” (see Abstract)

“a server comprising a database for storing operational data from a plurality of building systems located in said plurality of building sites and for storing service activity information about said systems from a plurality of building sites,” (column 9 lines 20-35,

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wherein a central management server contains a database that stores facility records, including work schedule and task ids).

“said server capable of being operatively connected to one or more clients through a network,” (column 8 lines 7-20, wherein the central management server communicates with EMI units via a WAN).

“said server receiving requests for said operational data and said service activity data for one or more systems and transmitting said operational data and service activity data to a client,” (column 12 lines 34-44, wherein the central management server receives requests for work orders, which is processed and is sent back to the EMI unit, which can display the data) “wherein said operational data includes information about the functional operation of the system.” (column 13 lines 19-56, wherein the operation of a system may be monitored and updated, wherein the operation includes tasks necessary for the function of specific equipment)

As per claim 29, Kalantar teaches “said service activity information further comprises service contract information.” (column 12 lines 14-33, wherein service activity information includes user records identifying where a user is scheduled to perform specified tasks, implying a contract and is analogous).

As per claim 30, Kalantar teaches “said service activity information further comprises information about the types of services being provided.” (column 12 line 49 – column 13 line 7, wherein the central management server holds information on the types of tasks being provided as well as the status of tasks).

As per claim 31, Kalantar teaches “said service activity information further comprises information about the types of systems being serviced.” (column 13 lines 8-18, wherein the central management server holds information containing a number of templates, which defines the system being serviced).

As per claim 32, Kalantar teaches “said service activity information further comprises information about the status of service activities.” (column 12 lines 57-67, wherein service activity information held in the central management server includes task status identifiers to indicate a variety of states).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 33-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kalantar et al. (“Kalantar” US # 6,954,737) in view of Hunter et al. (US Patent 6,363,422 B1).

As per claim 33, Kalantar teaches claim 16 above. Kalantar does not teach “said one or more systems is selected from the group consisting of HVAC systems, fire safety systems and mechanical systems.”

Hunter teaches “said one or more systems is selected from the group consisting of HVAC systems, fire safety systems and mechanical systems.” (column 6 lines 17-57,

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column 8 lines 56-65, column 9 lines 19-30, and column 11 lines 28-49, wherein a system that can be a HVAC system, mechanical units, or health/safety/fire monitoring system is monitored and controlled by client systems connected to a server that processes system data and centrally manages alarms and functions). It would have been obvious at the time of the invention for one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Kalantar's system for the management of facility management with Hunter's method of monitoring and controlling different types of systems through clients connected to a server. This would give the user the advantage of being able to access many different types of building systems using one portal. They are both in the same field of invention, that of the management of facilities through a database. The motivation for doing so would be to monitor and control differing equipment systems in multiple facilities through a central server that a user can access. (column 3 lines 20-33)

As per claim 34, Kalantar teaches claim 22 above. Kalantar does not teach "said one or more systems is selected from the group consisting of HVAC systems, fire safety systems and mechanical systems."

Hunter teaches "said one or more systems is selected from the group consisting of HVAC systems, fire safety systems and mechanical systems." (column 6 lines 17-57, column 8 lines 56-65, column 9 lines 19-30, and column 11 lines 28-49, wherein a system that can be a HVAC system, mechanical units, or health/safety/fire monitoring system is monitored and controlled by client systems connected to a server that processes system data and centrally manages alarms and functions). It would have

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been obvious at the time of the invention for one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Kalantar's system for the management of facility management with Hunter's method of monitoring and controlling different types of systems through clients connected to a server. This would give the user the advantage of being able to access many different types of building systems using one portal. They are both in the same field of invention, that of the management of facilities through a database. The motivation for doing so would be to monitor and control differing equipment systems in multiple facilities through a central server that a user can access. (column 3 lines 20-33)

As per claim 35, Kalantar teaches claim 28 above. Kalantar does not teach "said one or more systems is selected from the group consisting of HVAC systems, fire safety systems and mechanical systems."

Hunter teaches "said one or more systems is selected from the group consisting of HVAC systems, fire safety systems and mechanical systems." (column 6 lines 17-57, column 8 lines 56-65, column 9 lines 19-30, and column 11 lines 28-49, wherein a system that can be a HVAC system, mechanical units, or health/safety/fire monitoring system is monitored and controlled by client systems connected to a server that processes system data and centrally manages alarms and functions). It would have been obvious at the time of the invention for one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Kalantar's system for the management of facility management with Hunter's method of monitoring and controlling different types of systems through clients connected to a server. This would give the user the advantage of being able to access many different

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types of building systems using one portal. They are both in the same field of invention, that of the management of facilities through a database. The motivation for doing so would be to monitor and control differing equipment systems in multiple facilities through a central server that a user can access. (column 3 lines 20-33).

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's amendment, see page 2, filed 8/08/2006, with respect to the claim objection regarding the Specification has been accepted. The objection to the abstract has been withdrawn.

8. Applicant's arguments, see page 9, filed 8/08/2006, with respect to the rejection of claims 16, 22, and 28 in regards to 35 USC 112, second paragraph have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection in regards to USC 112, 2nd has been withdrawn.

9. Applicant's arguments, see page 9, filed 8/08/2006, with respect to the rejection of claims 16-32 in regards to 35 USC 102(e) have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

a. Applicant's argument is stated as "Kalantar does not disclose a method or system whereby operational and service information about a facility or a system can be retrieved... the Kalantar reference shows no mention of providing a server with information about how a system is operating."

In regards to this argument, examiner respectfully disagrees. Kalantar discloses that the operation of a system may be monitored and updated, wherein

the operation includes tasks necessary for the function of specific equipment (column 13 lines 19-56). Using a web page portal, users of Kalantar's invention can monitor the operation of the system to identify tasks for the operation of the system, where task identifiers and records for the operation is accessed in a database. The tasks refer to the operations to perform on or for a system that a central server is monitoring, and is analogous to operational information.

b. Applicants amendment to add new claims 33-35 are accepted for examination, but are considered new matter. In regards to the claims, Hunter et al. (US Patent 6,363,422), as previously cited in pertinent art, is used to teach that one or more systems is from a group consisting of HVAC systems, fire safety systems and mechanical systems." (column 6 lines 17-57, column 8 lines 56-65, column 9 lines 19-30, and column 11 lines 28-49, wherein a system that can be a HVAC system, mechanical units, or health/safety/fire monitoring system is monitored and controlled by client systems connected to a server that processes system data and centrally manages alarms and functions). They are analogous art because both are within the same field of invention, that of monitoring and servicing systems for a facility or a plurality of facilities.

Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Eastham (US Patent 6,457,015 B1)

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11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dangelino N. Gortayo whose telephone number is (571)272-7204. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim T. Vo can be reached on (571)272-3642. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Dangelino N. Gortayo
Examiner



Tim Vo
SPE



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